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THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, MARCH 25, 1850.

For the National Era.

JAMES H. PERKINS.

As if amid the cloudless noon of summer Strange ligh nings flashed, and blasted as they fell, Came to a thousand hearts the voice of Rumor, Ringing his sudden, unexpected knell. Hundreds of those who saw or knew him rever-

Although unused such sympathy to lend-Knowing his life of high and pure endeavor, Mourned at the tidings of his hapless end, And felt that in his death they too had lost a friend. The evil that men do lives after them;

The good is oft interred with their bones ls Shakspeare's wisdom turned to laughter, then, Since even Slander dare not raise her tones? What means this strong, unanimous expression Of sorrowing reverence for the holy dead— This longing yearning which we feel to fresher Memory's pale gar ands round his dying head?

As though such fading flowers could consolation shed Why was it, when the sudden tidings passed That Earth had claimed him for her own again, Through the great city Sorrow like a blast Woke wailing echoes in the hearts of men? Power and Fame he never strove to reach, Nor sought the friendship of the rich and strong But with most fearle's eloquence of speech Denounced oppression, custom-gilded long,

Upholding Truth and Right against the False and Wr Around his brows are wreathed no patriot laurels-No butcher-he o this, of Monterey; He never fought a nation's unjust quarrels He never took God's image for a prey, No selfish purpose ever stained his soul, The Godlike, the immortal, was his goal-

For lower aims he made no compromise Earth's phantom glories never yet enticed This warrior-son of God and follower of Christ. But many a mother, watching the long night Beside the deathbed of her only child, Has felt the heavy weight of woe more light, Cheered by his voice so carnest and so mild : Many a dying man has raised his head,

And felt a throb of human joy once more When, tossing on his parched and fevered bed, He heard that welcome footstep at the door, And felt Death's frightful vale less gloomy than before Alas! that he who lived to bless mankind

Was forced to struggle with a fearful Fate-That nameless tortures racked that noble mind, Till life grew terrible and desolate! Brave was thy combat with that strange life-sorrow And hero-like thy battle with the gloom-Now the sad night has melted in the morrow, And through a lonely and mysterious door Thy Soul has risen up triumphat t from the tomb!

He who lived not for glory needs no praise; The words would scarce attract a stranger's gaze And friendly eyes with tears are all too din Oh! let no marble column rear its head, No brass nor iron his memorial be— His fame will live when granite rocks have fled,

When Earth is past, with all her history, stamped on the archives of God's own Eternity Ye Western rivers, to his soul so dear His pall funereal let your waters be, And bear him stately to his ocean-bier, Beneath the surging billows of the sea There amid coral-arches let him rest,

While tempests sweep unheeded o'er the dead-The great sea never had a nobler guest, Nor Christian hero a more fitting bed For wide and deep his Soul as Ocean o'er his head These lines, unworthy of the name they bear Are the expression of a heart that owes More to his noble life and spirit rare

Than words can measure, or perchance it knows-Without a hope, a future, or a bon 1. The solemn lesson of existence conned. And now like him deems Life less real than that beyond.

Cincinnati, March 10, 1850.

[COPY-RIGHT SECURED.]

THE MOTHER-IN-LAW. A STORY OF THE ISLAND ESTATE.

BY MRS. EMMA D. E. SOUTHWORTH.

BOOK SECOND. THE OLD MAN'S DARLING

The more than Mickal of his bloom, The Abishag of his age. Christopher Smart's Song of David.

Louise recovered from her fainting fit to find her mother gone. All night she wept bitterly. The next morning she awoke pale and holloweyed. She wrote a letter full of the tenderest expressions of filial affection, and sent it to Mont Crystal. This letter was returned with the seal unbroken. Then she would have set out for Mont Crystal immediately, but a thunder-storm arising-a violent equinoctial storm-lasting all the afternoon and evening, prevented her. The next day, from the flood, the roads were impassable for a carriage, and Louise could not ride on horseback. She was forced to content herself with writing another and more earnest and impassioned letter to her mother. The second letter, like the first, was returned unopened-and Louise went to bed and wept herself to sleep.

General Stuart-Gordon had ridden over to the Brighty. It was very late when he returned. He his wadded gown, and settled himself comfortably in his study-chair by the side of the table to dinner. read the papers that had arrived in the evening's mail. Running his eyes over the columns, his attention was arrested by the following adver-

"NEXT OF KIN. If the heirs of Riley Frobisher O'Riley, of Athlone, county of Westmeath, Ireland, be yet living, and should see this advertisement, they are requested to report themselves to James Fro-bisher, Secretary of Legation to the British Em-bassy at Washington, where they will hear some-thing to their advantage."

"Riley Frobisher O'Riley, late of Athlone! Why, he was the father of my Brighty-this concerns my Brighty," thought the General, reading over the advertisement again, " Will hear something to their advantage'- to her advantagefor there is only she. That means that a fortune is left her, if it means anything! Oh, Brighty! shall I lose you at last? Shall this sole privilege of making your future prosperous be taken from me? But this is selfish! I said her happiness was dearer to me than anything else, yet now ! am alarmed at a piece of good fortune promise her; yet, after all, this may be a mistake. I will

write at once, and ascertain what this means." And, turning around to his writing-table, he penned a hasty letter of inquiry to the Secretary

The National Era is Published Weekly, on Seventh | He had not failed to mention the advertisement to Britannia, but she took it so quietly-seemed to think it of so little importance—that his fears had been set at rest; and, indeed, his self-respect had prevented him from expressing to Britannia an uneasiness for which at heart he condemned himself. He had even grown to think that the notice might possibly have reference to some one

> Upon the second week after the family quarrel one evening, as soon as Louise had, weeping, left the oak parlor, and as soon as Louis had, sympathizing, followed her, General Stuart-Gordon, putting on his dressing-gown and slippers, and sinking into his easy-chair, began to make himself comfortable by stretching out his feet and resting them upon the fire-irons, and drawing his candlestand laden with papers to his side. He had scarcely commenced reading, when Apollo rode up to the door, and, jumping from his horse, entered the room with the a

"Give them to me, here, Apollo!" said the General, dropping his paper; and Apollo, undrawing the strings of the bag, and taking hold of the bottom by the corners, shook the letters out.

There were letters from exporting grain and tobacco merchants of Baltimore and New York; there were political letters; and there was one that was immediately torn open and read. It bore the Washington post-mark. It was from James Probisher, Esquire, Secretary of the British Embassy from the Court of St. James, to Washington. It ran thus:

WASHINGTON, April 30, 19-. To General Stuart- Gordon:

Siz: Yours of the 20th April is at hand. The advertisement of the heirs of Riley O'Riley in the Intelligencer of the 10th April, to which your letter alludes, relates to the following facts,

viz:

Voyce Riley O'Riley, last Earl of Cloamachnois, died at Castle Cloamachnois, near Athlone, of Westmeath, Ireland, on the 224 of last and without heirs, unless the daughter of the late Riley O'Riley, the youngest son of the Earl's fourth son, can be found.

If this young lady lives in the person of Miss Britannia O'Riley, and can prove her identity, she is sole heiress to the late Earl's titles and estates, and Countess of Cloamachnois in her own right. I shall do myself the honor of waiting upon you, in relation to this subject, in the course of the week.

Sir, yours, most respectfully,

engagement to myself, Britannia.

"Upon account of the new and brilliant position in which you will shortly find yourself. I told you my reasons in my letter." Britannia arose from her seat, and, coming around, rested her hand upon the back of his chair, while she asked, gravely—

"My friend, why did you write that letter to me?"

"Brighty, oh, Brighty! all is over. You know that I feel it too well—too surely—too powerfully!"

"My friend, this grows very serious. Explain yourself," said Britannia, very gravely.

"Britannia, my letter explained this! Do not

f the week.
Sir, yours, most respectfully,
JAMES FROBISHER. The letter dropped from the hands of General Stuart-Gordon, and a mortal coldness and weakness seized his frame; his heart sunk.

"This is a blow! Just Heaven! this is a blow! Within three days of my marriage, too!" And he arose and walked up and down the floor, with his hands clasped behind his back,

and yet I would have made her happy! I feel face

night. Early the next morning, without saying one word upon the subject to any member of his family, he took pen, ink, and paper, and wrote the ly reached her bosom, and said, lowly and slowly—

| In 1847, and enjoyed the confidence and sympathy of the people. David Hausemann, the severe of the people. David Hausemann, the severe of things, or at least of order and tranquillity. following note to Britannia:

ISLE OF RAYS. May 1. DEAREST BRITANNIA: Let your most earnest and sincere friend be the first to wish you joy in

as I can do, Britannia. I cannot offer you my do so. I am stricken, Brighty-I am stricken.

congratulations in person; I have no strength to Like the slave in the Brazilian mines, I have found a diamond of the first water, only to see it

When I found a young, beautiful, accomplished, and amiable girl, alone and unprotected, a girl of elegant manners and refined tastes, exposed to all the evils of an unsettled life, I had thought to take that girl to my bosom, and, by cherishing her tenderly, to have made her happy and won her and I must try to re-assure you; let us understand

when set in the coronet; Britannia will lend lustre even to the high rank she will reach.

Brighty-for to me you are Brighty, and no countess-Brighty, then, in three days more we were to have been married. I know the strict integrity of your heart, and I know that you would have kept your engagement under all circumstances, but I release you fully and freely from it. I wish you joy. God bless you, my dear

I enclose you the letter of the Secretary of Legition. There will be no difficulty in proving your identity; and I need not say, dearest Britannia, that I am at your command always, to render

any service in my power.
Your friend, as ever, CARTWRIGHT STUART-GORDON. He folded, sealed, and directed this letter, and calling Apollo, bade him saddle a horse, and take

it to the Crags. Louise kept her room with a nervous headache all that day. Two weeks of crying had completely exhausted the delicate girl.

Louis came to breakfast, looking disturbed General Stuart-Gordon told him, gravely, to take comfort That the evil fates would probably be conciliated by the sacrifice of one member of any one family, and that that member would prob-Crags that afternoon, to pass the evening with ably be himself. And, without explaining his meaning further, General Stuart-Gordon left the entered the wainscoted parlor with a singularly oak parlor, and shut himself up alone in his libralight and brisk step, threw off his coat, drew on ry, trying to read a Hebrew dictionary, placed upuide down before him. He did not go down to

> Soon after dinner, Apollo Belvidere returned from his errand to the Crags, and rapped at the

door of the library.
"Come in," groaned the General.
And Apollo came in, bowing and scraping, and

holding his hat in one hand and a little note in the other. "Did you find the young lady?"

"Yes, sir"
"Well, how was she—how was the family?" "Miss O'Riley and Miss Somerville, sir, were well, sir; they was a-sittin' at the table, sir, and erville, sir, he was a-prophecying

Well, what is that you have in your hand-"Yes, sir"

And, with ano her bow and scrape, Apollo advanced and handed the note.

It was a little three-cornered-folded thing, and directed in the hand of Britannia. He opened it hastily, and read as follows:

"Will General Stuart-Gordon favor Britannis O'Riley with an interview this evening ?"

That was all. "Saddle my horse quickly, Apollo, then come and assist me to dress. Tell Scraph to bring me some hot water," exclaimed General Stuart-Gordon, rising hastily, and passing from his library on his way to his bedchamber.

In half an hour, General Stuart-Gordon was on his road to the Crags. In two hours, he had arrived.

ing up his portly form, and throwing one arm over the back of the chair, addressed his compan-

on as follows:
"Well, Britannia! I said that I was at your command, and, accordingly, when you summoned me to your presence I lost no time in obeying me to your presence I lost no time in obeying you, though I could have wished, Britannia, that you had spared me the pain of this interview— at least for a few days—at least until I had in some measure recovered from the shock of this most heavy blow, and regained a portion of my calmness and self-control. However, Britannia, that is a ruin—not half as good as this old house we sit in. The estates of Clonmachnois consist of some two or three hundred acres of unreclaimed and unreclaimable morass. The rent of Clonmachnois might scarcely be collected from a "Well, Britannia, what do you wish to do first? How can I assist you? Tell me; I am quite at your orders. Why do you not reply, Britan-

"I do not wish anything done until after Sunday, General," said Britannia. General Stuart-Gordon started-looked at her earnestly. Sunday was to have been their wedding day.
"Oh, Britannia! But this allusion is thought-

less or wanton on your part!"
"Wby, General! Have we not enough to keep us busy until Sanday? After Sunday, can we not take Baltimore and Washington in our route and attend to this business?"
"Oh, Britannia, cease to torture me! You know that this is all changed!—all—all."

"Then you do really mean to break with me, General? "I do really mean to release you from your engagement to myself, Britannia."

"Britannia, my letter explained this! Do not affect to misunderstand me!" "Your letter and your conversation, General Stuart-Gordon, coincide perfectly—neither contradicting the other. Both, however, are unintel-

'How! Do you not understand that by the death of your great-grandfather, the aged Earl of Clonmachnois, and by the previous demise of every intervening heir, you are left sole heiress of his titles and estates, and that you are, at this

and his head bowed upon his bosom, as was his custom when troubled.

"Well! well! well! this is severe! this is heavy! She will no longer have a reason for marrying a man old enough to be her father—

"Yes! I understand, believe, and accept that, as though it were one of the thirty-nine articles of Christian faith!" exclaimed Brighty, lifting her eyes, gleaming with pride and mirth, to his

"My position necessarily exposes me to man humiliations, but that which is most difficult t pear is a taunt from General Stuart-Gordon! All the chivalry of Virginia started in his veins

your dawn of fortune. I have just regeived a letter from the Secretary of Legation, and ampleased to be the first to announce to you the brilliant change that awaits you—to be the first to address you by your new title.

There! that is as far as I can go, and as much in the first to address you be your new title.

There is that is as far as I can go, and as much in the first to address you be your new title.

There is that is as far as I can go, and as much in the first to address you be your new title.

There is that is as far as I can go, and as much in the first to wish you joy in the first to wish a stately suavity took her hand, bowed over it, and said, gravely—

"Forgive me, madam! Make some allowance for the many disturbances of my mind by this sudden and grievous calamity—the loss of a treasure so nearly received."

"Sir!" said Britannia, "a girl who would have accepted your hand from merely convenient "But, Britannia, recollect!

frame shook as he wiped the perspiration from

" Nor do I, as poets, painters, and players, un and I must try to re-assure you; let us understand each other. Will you sit down? I have never Cloumachnois has a splendid destiny before her.

The diamond will blaze all the more brilliantly when set in the coronet: Britannia will be a set of the coronet. Britannia will be a set of the coronet. Britannia will be a set of the coronet.

seech you, recover your self-possession—I scarcely recognise General Stuart-Gordon thus!" "When I am about to lose you, Britannia!" "But you are not to lose me, my dearest

"But you never loved me, Britannia; and now as there exists no necessity for your sacrificing yourself, you shall not do it!"

"Again! You urge that point so strenuously!
No; I do not love you after the manner of young ladies who sigh over sentimental poetry, and die over doleful ditties; I am incapable of the thing!
Nor do I lament my incapacity for the capricious and evanescent emotion; but I have a very profound friendship for you, General—a friendship that I have for no other human heing—and a very that I have for no other human being—and a very high respect for you, a respect that makes me, with all my pride, regret that I have the power of moving you so; and I have to bring to mind David, Solomon, Marc Antony, and all the great heroes of antiquity, who in the grave autumn of their lives have thus forgotten their high self-appreciation, in order to understand you self-appreciation, in order to understand you

"It is because you love me not, while I love you ing her hand with grave tenderness. "Brighty, I had hoped, by blessing your life with all my power, to have won your heart. What can I offer you that the world will not lay at your

Again that inexplicable gleaming smile of suppressed and self-mocking mirth puzzled and an-gered the General. Rising with dignity, he said— "This has continued long enough, madam. I am at your service when you please to advise me of any assistance I can render you in this affair. Good evening, madam! Pray make my excuses Good evening, madam! Pray make my excuses to Miss Somerville. Once more, good evening, madam;" and, bowing very low, General Stuart-Gordon raised his hat from the table, and was passing out But just as his hand was laid upon the lock of the door, the jewelled fingers of Brighty fell upon his wrist. He turned around. "Will you come back?"

"At your command, madam."

"Will you sit down?"

"He realied by senting himself throwing him.

He replied by seating himself, throwing himself back, and preparing to listen to her.

"It is a great thing to get a character for integrity, fidelity, and magnanimity; and I should like very well to own such a one," said Brighty, as if communing with herself; "unfortunately for the success of my wish, this dear General constants the convention of generality with me." Welltends the crown of generosity with me! Well! let him take it!" Then turning to where Gene-ral Stuart-Gordon sat in offended majesty, she

"I am Countess of Clonmachnois in my own right, am I not?" "I presume there can be no doubt of the question, madam!" "Of Castle Clonmachnois, Athlone, county of

Westmeath, Ireland." "Correct as a City Directory, madam "That has a very magnificent sound! It is quite as brilliant as the flashing of the frost and

quite as brilliant as the flashing of the frost and ice that lay upon the dead flowers in the garden of Mont Crystal."

"Yes, Britannia," said the General, gravely and mournfully, and again overcome in her presence, "yes, Britannia, but my life is the blighted winter garden, and your fortunes are the ice and sleet that have killed it with cold brilliance, and covered it with a frozen and glittering abroud?"

"That is to say, my title, if I return to Ireland, Countess of Clonmachnois, and my estates, the castle and lands of Clonmachnois!"

such the accident of an unusual development of the brain in the region of self-esteem! Listen to me, susan smilingly arose, and left the room.

Britannia reseated herself, pointing out a chair on the opposite corner of the fire-place to the General. He took it, seated himself, and, drawing up his portly form, and throwing out.

and went on—

"Set yourself at rest, my dearest and best friend. If there is any generosity, it will be upon your part, who will take a petulant and penniless girl to your heart and home!" and, stooping down, Brighty offered her cheek to his kiss."

"Penniless, Brighty!" he exclaimed, in scarcely repressed astonishment. "Yes, listen! This Castle of Clonmachnois! calmness and self-control. However, Britannia, claimed and unreclaimable morass. The rent of I am here, and ready to serve you." All this time, Britannia had sat quite still, looking down few half-naked and half-starved wretches. upon her own same pewelled hands, that lay have found miserable shelter in the mud huts one upon the other on her lap. She did not speak, even now that he had finished his sentence. "Well, Britannia, what do you wish to do first?"

Inims and clubs of all kinds opened the degree doors to half dry land that what in revolutionary times is most precious to a statesman, time. What he lost, the reaction of their rights on the streets. The Vossische, and Spenersche, and Constitutional newspapers. in a marsh. The last Earl of Cleumacanois died, since he is dead, in the deepest poverty—his sons and grandsons having perished before, in their efforts to retrieve their fortunes—some under the burning sun of Hindostan, some amid the snows of Upper Canada, and some in the forests of Brazil. All that remains to me is the barren title—

the bitter mockery. Oh! for Heaven's sake, General, keep it a secret, lest democratic Virginia cule. Only Mrs. Armstrong has pride enough for that !

General Stuart-Gordon was somewhat relieved still, with a shade of uneasiness, he inquired— "But how know you all this, Britannia?"

"Oh! from the correspondence of my father and my uncles—old letters in my possession."

"These will be necessary to prove your identity, if there is any call for them Dearest Britannia, I am so relieved !"

"That I have not a fortune!"
"It is selfish, Britannia, but it is human!" "I wish I had a fortune to bring you!" "And I wish to confer everything upon ya

Brighty."
"But I do not understand why this English Secretary of Legation should take such an interest in discovering a beggared heiress."
"Nor I, Britannia; and it gives me uneasiness

Depend upon it, Britannia, this inheritance is not the trifle you think it." And rising now, as it was getting late, he took his leave, and departed. Returning home with a somewhat lighter heart than he had set out with, still he wondered why any one should take the trouble of advertising the heiress of a ruin half sunk in a bog.

The mystery was soon explained. TO BE CONTINUED !

BERLIN LETTER.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE PRUSSIAN REVO-LUTION.

SECOND PART.

CHAPTER V. The Camphausen Ministry and the General Diet.

and yet I would have made her happy! I feel that I should have done so! But it is over, it is last, last dream! Countess of Clon-machnois! Oh. Brighty, after all, will you ever meet with one who will cherish you tenderly as I have done!"

The you understand that there is now no necessity to sacrifice yourself to an elife or machnois! Oh. Brighty, after all, will you ever meet with one who will cherish you tenderly as I have done!"

General Stuart-Gordon did not go to bed that General Stuart-Gordon did not go to be good and offended at her smile. "Then you understand that there is and offended at her smile. "Then you understand that there is and offended at her smile. "Then you understand that there is and offended at her smile. "Then you understand that there is and either may endanger them. Another influenced the many ording and either may endanger them. Another influenced the ministry of count Arnim occasioned the formation, on the 29th, of a new Ministry, of which he people of and either may endanger them. Another influenced the Ministry, of which the people of which the people of them them them them is seastful titions had saved and either may endanger them. Another influenced the Ministry, of which the people of the Ministry, of the winder may be people of the may ording the confidence and the people of the may ording the may ording the confidence and the people of the may ording the confidence and should the people of the ministry of the ministry of the confidence and should On the 24th of March, Ludolph Camphausen, treasury, became Minister of Pinance; Count Shwerin, a Pomeranian nobleman, whose opinions had seemed liberal when contrasted with the folly of those held by the Eichhorn Ministry, became Minister of Public Worship and Instruction-The Ministry of the Interior was given to Alfred should, at all risks, be avoided. When the meas Von Anerswald, an East Prussian nobleman. whose position in respect to parties scarcely entitled him to be called a liberal. General Von Reyhar became Minister of War, and M. Von Arnim, then ambassador at Paris, Minister of

Foreign Affairs. The accession of Camphausen, Hausemann, and Anerswald, to office, was universally approved Objections were made to Shwerin. The councils of eighteen of the towns on the Rhine had demanded the dismissal from the former Ministry, of Count Shwerin, as well as of his more unpopular colleagues. He had voted in the General Diet of 1847 for the notorious paragraph in the penal code, inflicting the punishment of peniten. tiary imprisonment for any insult to the memory of deceased members of the royal family.

The object which the new Ministry proposed o itself was, to use the language of Camphausen himself, "to draw the Government gently over the chasm which separated the old system from the new." We shall see that instead of attaining this object, it permitted the revolution itself to

fall into this chasm. Rarely has any Ministry, in a great crisis, been so favored by circumstances as this was at the moment when it took the helm of the stormtossed ship of State. Their past action in politics did not prevent them from taking the head of the party of progress, and of reaping a rich harvest from the revolution. The parties were generally in its favor: a radical deputation admitted that the formation of the Ministry was a good guaranty for the performance of the royal promises; the conservatives looked on the Ministry as a necessary evil; the bourgeoisie rejoiced over this bourgeoisie Ministry, whose two principal members, Camphausen and Hausemann, had reached the Ministry without passing through all the grades of the Bureaucracy, an exception without a precedent in Prussian history. No opposition to the energetic carrying out of the principles of the revolution was to be feared. The military showed no signs of a mutinous spirit, but were contented with the course of things. The old system of the Bureaucracy had lost all courage, supposing its days were numbered. The King had not yet left Berlin. He was in the hands of the Ministry. He took no direct part in the administration, but left the initiative in everything to the responsible Ministers. The state of public opinion was clearly indicated by the fact that a self-constituted committee of fifty, sitting at Frankfort, and acting entirely in the democratic sense, was obeyed throughout all Germany. This was a finger-post to show the Camphausen Ministry the road it should go.

The theory of Camphausen spoiled everything He wished to satisfy all parties, and pleased none. The transition which he supposed he ought to effect had already taken place. The combat of the 18th and 19th of March had in reality entirely overthrown the old Government and its system. Instead of organizing the new system, which had already seen adopted, Camphausen supposed the old one to be still in existence, and that it should be set saide gradually. He should have immediately organized the national guard in the capital and provinces; he should have placed the communes, circles, and districts, on a democratic basis ; removed from office the reactionary provincial officers, and at once destroyed, to the very roots, the systems of the Bureaucracy and

soon as the conservatives should recover from their first fright. In vain the press raised its voice of warning. Camphausen held fast to his doctrine. He thought that the old system of doctrine. He thought that the old system of things should be without a sensible shock changed into the new, the Government gradually re
discussion, but at the first sadly frightened the timid bourgeoisie. This fright was not without down to within the last two or three years; that the author of the Declaration of Independence and the founder of the Declaratio formed, the new laws should originate from the gnorance it has fastened, for its own ends, on the old, and that strict legality should be maintained.

If a keeper will famish the chained lion, that we look in vain, among the names conspicu formed, the new laws should originate from the old, and that strict legality should be maintained.

This was a virtual denial of the revolution.

The bourgeoisie organized its clubs, to countrie bourgeoisie organized by the radi-Camphausen, the Minister of the revolution, teract the influence of those formed by the radi- Proviso, until after the commencement of the wished to serve both it and the old Government. serve two masters, and that he who is not hand

The convocation of the General Diet was fact was, however, that although he and his colleagues now demanded the confidence of the deand rising at once to a commanding influence, mocracy, their principles were not more advanced than in 1847, when they demanded the adoption of certain measures for the sole reason that they would hinder a revolution. The change which short of the demands of the people, that remonstrances and petitions against it flowed in from

every quarter. The political instincts of the people, which dewere right, and the politicians who were not intoxicated with the late change in their favor ranged themselves on the same side. The old

Diet, both in its composition and from the mode

We have said that the public voice was in range on his entry into the Ministry, and that the soon became unpopular. With Daily Nies, Philadelphia; the Tribune and Excording papers; and that the North American and try, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the North American and Excording Polymers, Polymer and Excording Polymers, Polymers and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the public voice was in range of the Ministry, and that the Ministry of the Ministry, and that the Ministry, and that the Polymer of the Ministry, and that the Polymer of the Ministry, and that the Polymer of the Ministry, and that the Ministry, and the Ministry, and that th manded of Camphausen the revocation of the call of election of its members, represented nothing but the different orders and their interests. Besides, it was only a consultative, not a legislative body. The King was the law-making power, and the people wished him to exercise this power to confirm the conquests of the revolution.

The Camphausen Ministry, in its anxiety to escape anarchy, mistook entirely the functions of the old Diet. It strove to avoid every revolutionary measure, and committed the blunder of changing a consultative body into a legislative one, than which a more revolutionary measure cannot be conceived. Professing to aim at the abolition of the nobility and orders, it convened

The Ministry was supported in this course by the richer portion of the bourgeoisie, to which tranquillity is always preferable to liberty, and which the habit of submission to the bureaucracy It should, therefore, have surprised no one that number of office-holders, or, as they are here called the bureaucracy, were of course in favor of it. At last, the plotters of a reaction advocated it, being convinced that any further action by the King ure was irrevocably determined on, the revolu was wounded in its fundamental principle for it took for granted that the old system had not been annihilated, but had remained in its in-tegrity, promising to make only a few concessions. The Diet met on the 2d of April, almost unno-

ticed by the people. Its action deceived the expectation of the Ministry and the Reaction. Coming, as its members did, from different parts Coming, as its memoers did, from interest contact with of the country, and from immediate contact with the people, they feared to resist the public opinion. In the answer to the royal speech, the Diet ion. In the answer to the royal speech, the Diet demanded a constitutional form of Government, the right of free association, liberty of the press, a habras corpus act, independence of judges, pub-lic trials and oral pleadings in political and criminal cases, trial by jury, equality of rights for all religions, institution of a national guard with the right of electing officers, direct suffrage, a popular National Assembly with legislative powbility of Ministers, the allegiance of the army to the Constitution, and not to the King, and, finally, the transformation of Germany from a con-federation of States into a federal State, to be governed by a popular Assembly. The Ministry itself received a most humiliating lesson in the

liberal amendments by the Diet of the electoral law proposed by the Government. This proof that the Cabinet was far behind the requirements of public opinion, and was either treacherous or incapable, or both together, was the first given to the people. Another was soon given. Under the influence and on the proposi-tion of the Ministers, the Diet proceeded to elect as members to the Frankfort Assembly, Messrs. Stahl and Keller, two of the stanchest form. This was too much for the patience of the people. A burst of discontent all over the counry warned the Ministers that they had presumed too much on the confidence reposed in them by the democracy. They were compelled to break the election by the Diet, and order a new one by

the people.

The Cabinet could not permit the Diet of the Orders to adjourn without asking from it a vote of confidence. This was given without healtation. It linked the Ministry to the conservatives, and separated it from the people. The friends of the Ministry have since pleaded its incapacity as as an excuse for this step. However this may be, it contributed to destroy the popularity of the Camphausen Ministry.

The Camphausen Ministry and the People of Berlin

The bourgeoisie of the capital had taken an active part in the combat of March. For some days after, they were filled with the most lively enthusiasm for the revolution. This sentiment was at its climax on the 23d of March, the day of the obsequies of those who had fallen at the bargive way to a dread of anarchy-a horror of so cialism as painted by the reaction, and fatigue un-der the burden of their new duties. Many of them were obliged to be almost constantly under arms to preserve order. The police and military having disappeared, it was supposed to be neces-sary that their places should be filled. Political cares, to which the bourgeoisie had been strangers, were now heaped upon them. The Gov-ernment seemed to be without energy and vacillating in all its acts, while the external relations of Prussia were complicated in a fearful manner. War was imminent on the side of Denmark. Russia, and France: Poland was on the eve of insurrection, and all Germany was in a state of effervescence. Add to three perplexities the jealousies fomented by the reaction between the armed bourgeoisie and the unarmed people. former became much excited against communists, organizers of labor, and the other would-be reformers, who spring up so numerously after a

The people had been introduced by the revolu-tion into a new world of ideas. Formerly it had been a crime to occupy themselves with politics; now it was a duty. Their profound ignorance and inexperience made it next to impossible for them to distinguish between sound views and utterly ridiculous ones. All felt the necessity of learning, and clubs were accordingly established. To these the people crowded night after night. Hundreds of orators were found, and nearly all of them almost as ignorant as the people. The nonsensical theories put forth were numberless. In half an hour, General Stuert-Gordon was on of Legation, and, ringing for Apolio, bade him, see that the spit was, to said hat as it was, to saidle a horse, and take it to the post office, that it might go out in the morning mail.

"It will then be two days before I can received an answer," thought the General, and her Period of Per

gratulations upon the splendid future opening before you?" he asked, in a very low voice.

Britanuia arose from her seat, giving him her hand, and looking at Susan, said, quietly—

"My dear Miss Somerville, I wish to converse alone with General Stuart-Gordon for a few minutes, if you will give me leave."

Susan smilingly arose, and left the room.

Britannia reseated herself, pointing out a chair on the opposite corner of the fire-place to the singlety dashed the flashing tears from her eyes.

ORitey!—a wayward girl, with some natural and of association, rights which actually existed and scarcely had need of its authorization. The sund scarcely had need of its authorization. The national guard remained unorganized, the burreleast of the product of the fire-place to the solid questions appeared the most easy of solution. An instance of this simplicity may be trained undisturbed; the burreleast of the committee on "the product of the individual converses and searcely had need of its authorization. The national guard remained unorganized, the burreleast of the product of the individual converse and searcely had need of its authorization. The national guard remained unorganized, the burreleast of the product of the individual composing that meeting did not throw off the individual composing that meeting did not throw off the product of the

office-holders, the professors, the naturally timid, the conservators, and the agents of the reaction. Unions and clubs of all kinds around their doors nightly for discussion. Even the leggars organand Spenersche, and Constitutional newspapers, reflected in their columns every change in opinion of the bourgeoisie-and a student, Schloffel, es-Camphausen's first great political fault. The tablished one as the organ of the clubs. The

which it has ever since retained. The Ministry had no organ, but sent occasional articles to the different papers, or placarded their proclamations in the streets. would ninder a revolution. The change which had taken place in public opinion had left them untouched. Up to the combat of the 18th of extras, and fly-sheets, designed for the political institution, and thereby exenerating the people March, the convocation of the Diet had been a popular measure; after that period, it fell so far days, much excitement. The false rumors and inflammatory addresses, circulated in this new

We have said that the public voice was in fashort, to act the diplomatist. Among his col-leagues, the shrewd and able Hausemann was his rival, while the others were sovereign, each one in his own department. The Executive was paralyzed. The demonstrations and threats of the nobility in Pomerania and the Mark went unpunished, the petitions for direct suffrage were rejected, and the armed Bourgeois Guard was used by its reactionary chief, without the knowledge of the Ministers, or at least of Camphausen, to disperse processions of unarmed workmen. The consequence of this incapacity of the Cabi-net was a large majority of radical voters at the elections of the 1st and 8th of May for the Con-stituent Assembly. The ordering of these elec-tions was another fault of the Ministry. It should have supported the Frankfort Assembly, which was the only body in a position to secure the unity the Diet of the Orders to ask its consent to their abolition.

The unpopularity of the Ministry was completed by the measure of the recall of

the Prince of Prussia, the most unpopular mar in Prussia. It even pretended that he had been sent to England on an embassy, and had not fled there. In the official notice of the 11th of May,

PUBLIC MEETING IN CHESTER COUNTY, PA

KENNETT SQUARE, CHESTER Co., PA, February 28, 1850. To the Editor of the National Era: DEAR SIR: I send you the proceedings of a neeting which was held in this county yesterday and hope you may find room for the same in the.

Eva. The meeting was quite large, considering
the shortness of the notice, and the discussions were marked by a spirit of earnestness and una-nimity for the Wilmot Provise, rarely equalled in 1848, when the contest with all parties here

crats and Free-Soilers participated. It was really a meeting of all parties. The resolutions adopted by the Democrats of Philadelphia are better calculated to split that party to pieces, than anything which their un-principled leaders have heretofore attempted in this State. The cry of "compromise," and the dis-position to yield everything for the sake of the Inion, is the result of panic, and must necessarily be of temporary duration here; and then the ter-rible, the overwhelming revulsion in public sentiment, which must ensue in all the free States, will bear down and submerge the Doughfaces forever.

In haste, yours, &c. A large and respectable meeting, without dis-tinction of party, of the citizens of Chester county, Pennsylvania, was convened at Hamorton Hall, February 27, 1850, to take into consideration the

present crisis in our national affairs.

James Miles was called to the chair, and Joseph B. Phillips appointed secretary.

The following resolutions were, after a lengthy and animated discussion, unanimously adopted:

1. Resolved, That, in view of the fact that

Southern men are already moving into our lately acquired territory with their slaves, in spite of

law to the contrary, we have no assurance that Mr. Clay is correct in the opinion, which he so positively maintains, that the adoption of the Wilmot Proviso is not needed to prevent New Mexico and Descret from becoming slave States.

2. Resolved, That the admission by Mr. Davis of Mississippi in the Senate, and Mr. Clingman of North Carolina in House, during the present session of Congress, that the mere agitation of the Wilmot Proviso, and its passage heretofore through the House of Representatives, has pre-vented the extension of slavery into California, is a proud justification of the stand we have taken, and the course we have pursued and intend to pursue in regard to this important measure, and is, at the same time, a sufficient answer to the as-sertion so often made, that the Proviso is unneces-

sary or injurious to the cause it is intended to 3. Resulted, That we view with slarm and in dignation the recreancy of a large number of Northern Representatives, including no less than eight, (viz. Butler and Pitman, Whigs; Dimwick, Gilmore, Mann, McLanahan, Robbins, and Ross, Democrats,) from our own State, exhibited in the recent vote of the House of Representatives, by licly declared here, and his votes on Root's resolution, or never expect the votes of Free Soil men.

soon after, this enthusiasm began to to a dread of anarchy—a horror of sos painted by the reaction, and fatigue unburden of their new duties. Many of of the free States have changed their minds on this subject, or have relinquished, in the smallest degree, their fixed determination to secure the present and future inhabitants of our new Terri tories against the introduction of elavery; on the contrary, the spirit manifested by the representa-tives of the slave States, during the present session of Congress, has deepened and strengthened our conviction of the necessity of using all our constitutional power to arrest the further exten-sion of what a vast majority of the slaveholders nselves admit to be a moral and political evil of the greatest magnitude.

5 Resolved, That if the Government of the

United States shall permit the establishment of tion, as a nation, will have made itself responsible for all the evils and crimes that slavery engenders; it will have assumed, in the face of an astonished world, the office of guardian, nurse, and protector of human bondage, amidst the scotts and jeers of the tyrants of the old world,

ous in the ranks of the Northern Democracy, for one who ever repudiated the principle of the They were frequented by the rich, the holders, the professors, the naturally timid, last forty years, and who must be presumed to be accounted with its tondamental Acctainmental International Intern him that the Proviso was unconstitutional or otherwise objectionable; and, therefore, that those reckless politicians who have joined hands with the slaveholders of the South in denouncing the Proviso and calumniating its advocates, are honest constitutional party was represented by the National, a paper founded on the first of April, fathers, and unworthy of the liberty they be shameless apostates from the glorious faith of our

queathed us.
S. Resolved, That, in our opinion, there is but one way to stop the agitation of the slavery ques-tion in Congress; and that is, for the Federal Government to relieve itself of all responsibility institution, and thereby exonerating the people of the free States from what they regard as the form, had at first a powerful effect on the people. But a few days sufficed to teach them to be less credulous. The poison brought its antidote with it.

connot, dare not, and will not rest under, be the consequences what they may.

9. Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting, signed by the officers, be published in our county papers; and that the North American and Daily North Thinhelphia; the Tribane and Exception.

Joseph Phillars, Secretary

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE NATIONAL ERA.

NORTH MADISON, IA., Feb. 20, 1850. MR. EDITOR: Permit me to inquire of my to allow his name to be recorded with the Slation of Mr. Root on the table on the 5th instant after voting for the principle involved in that resolution on the first trial, to wit, on the 31st of

Why try to smother the Jeffersonian Ordi-

nauce of 1787, commonly called the Wilmot Pro-I saw, with pleasure, Mr. Dunham's vote on the first trial, and had somewhat to answer those that questioned me as to why I, being a Free-

Soiler, should have voted for him; but when I saw his vote on the 5th, all my hope failed of much good coming out of the old organizations.

I thought, when I heard him speak here in this place, that he would stand up in defence of the principle which was couched in the before-named

and caused to give his vote in direct opposition
to the first. Did he Mr. Dusham vote for the
resolution first from principle? What changed
the principle in five weeks?

I, for one, think that a right principle always remains a right principle. Did the tirade of abuse heaped on the North by Messrs. Clingman. Toombs, & Co., frighten Mr. Dunham? I cannot believe Mr. Dunham would be so easily intimi-dated—a man that seemed to be so frank, free and candid—that seemed to wear such an oldfashioned air of republican independence, could not certainly be made to cower beneath the lash of slaveholders. I am at a loss to account for it.

was, which was most to be relied on for the maintenance of that important measure. A majority of those present were Whigs, although many Demografs and Free Soilars and the conduct of Mr. Dunham may serve to teach us Free Soil men, to place no confidence in any man that is not be place no confidence in any man that is not be place no confidence in any man that is not be place no confidence in any man that is not be place no confidence in any man that is not be place no confidence in any man that is not be place no confidence in any man that is not be place no confidence in any man that is not be place no confidence in any man that is not be place no confidence in any man that is not be placed in the minute. Soiler at heart. I will take this opportunity of saying to all the friends of equal rights of man, to rally to the standard again and again; notwithstanding our cause seems for a time to languish. be of good cheer; ours is the cause of truth and

justice, and must prevail. gence and perseverance in the cause, knowing "that we fight a good fight," and therefore our labor will not be in vain. Yours, respectfully, B. F. Whitson.

LEBANON, IA., March 1, 1850.

To the Editor of the National Era: I find the following language in the last Eca: "General Cass, too, is shaken with alarms; and, conversing with one of the Indiana members who has been taken under the special care of the South, he learns that in the event of a dissolu-tion of the Union, the State of Indiana will go

with the South."
Sir, the member who gave such assurance must be but very little acquainted with the sentiment of the people of Indiana in reference to this matter. Our people value the Union, and would perpetuate it; yet if the South secede, and once break up the Union, Indiana will be the last to follow in that secession; she will be the very last to ally herself again to the fatal slaveholding South. Sir, we would as soon think of forming an alliance with Russia or Austria. If the South will dissolve the Union because we will not con-sent to the extension of human slavery, all we have to say to her is, farewell; a word which makes us linger, yet farewell. S. NEAL.

LATTAVILLE, Ross Co., O , Feb. 18, 1850. To the Editor of the National Era.

I am one among a number that voted for J. L. Taylor, to represent this district in Congress, with the express understanding that the said J. L. Taylor was in favor of extending the Ordinance of 1787 over the newly sequired Territories of California and New Mexico; or, in other words, the Wilmot Proviso.

It is well known that be declared publicly, that sooner than give his vote for the extension of slavery, he would suffer his arm to be taken off; and without a doubt, these sentiments procured him the votes of most of the Free Soil men.
Now, we wish him to reconcile his views, pub-

HANGING ROCK,

To the Editor of the National Era: Not a few of the voters of this county have read with surprise and mortification the vote given by Mr. Vinton, our Representative, upon the resolution of Mr. Root instructing the Territo-roial Committee to incorporate the Wilmot Proviso in the bill for the organization of the Terri-

I find Mr. Vinton voted to lay the resolution upon the table-in other words, to get it out of the way. Now, the voters of this county have a right to demand of Mr. Vinton an explanation of that vote, and particulary so as he stood pledged to his constituents to use his utmost exertions to to his constituents to use his utmost exertions to have the Proviso incorporated in any bill that might be brought up. It was with that understanding and that pledge that he received a large support in this county. "Look well to your Congressmen," said Mr. Vinton, in a public speech at Burlington, urging the election of General Taylor, "and the General, if elected, will